taka has modified the approved project and included the South Canara district in the Project;

(d) if so, whether the Union Government have agreed to this modification; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D.K. THARA DEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) Yes.

(b) The districts included in the Project are Gulbarga, Bidar, Raichur, Bijapur, Dharwar and Belgaum.

(c) to (e). The Government of Karnataka had recommended the inclusion of the South Canara district in a supplementary proposal for extension of the India Population Project to New Districts. The supplementary proposal could however not be implemented because of resource constraints.

Killing of Elephants in Kerala

2691. SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government are aware of mass-scale deforestation and killings of wild animals especially elephants in 'Parambikulam Sanctuary' of Kerala State; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to protect this Sanctuary?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) No large scale deforestration or poaching in 'Parambikulam Sanctuary' has been reported. However, one case of killing of an elephant is reported to have taken place in 1990 inside the sanctuary but no case of illicit killing of elephants inside the sanctuary has been reported in 1991.

(b) Regular patrolling of the sanctuary by wildlife staff is done to safeguard against illegal killing or deforestration in Parambikulam Wildlife Sanctuary. Government of India has provided central assistance to the State Government to strengthen the anti-poaching infrastructure like jeep, fire arms and construction of forest gaurd chowkies.

New Ayurvedic Hospitals in Kerala

2692. SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Ayurvedic hospitals and Ayurvedic Educational Institutions run by the Union/State Government and Private concerns in Kerala;

(b) whether the Union Government propose to establish new Ayurvedic Hospitals and Ayurvedic Educational Institutions in Kerala during Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D.K. THARA DEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) As per information received from Government of Kerala there are 110 Government Ayurvedic Hospitals, 3 Government Ayurvedic Colleges and 2 Ayurvedic Colleges in Private Sector. The number of Ayurvedic Hospitals run by Private Concern is not known.

(b) and (c). Medical aid and establishment of Ayurvedic Colleges are basically state subjects. Presently, there is no proposal to establish new Ayurvedic Hospitals